

1 hundred per cent above the national average in one of  
2 the immediate past two years preceding the date of  
3 determination, or whether there is seventy-five per cent  
4 above the national average of chronic continuing unemploy-  
5 ment for the past three years preceding the date of  
6 determination, or whether there is fifty per cent above  
7 the national average of four years for the past four  
8 years preceding the date of determination.

9 Now, what are those areas? Baltimore City,  
10 the inner port just escaped being declared a distressed  
11 area, but Somerset County, Crisfield, Dorchester County,  
12 Cambridge, Garrett County, Oakland area, Prince Frederick  
13 area of Calvert County in southern Maryland, and the  
14 Cumberland area of Allegany County in western Maryland are  
15 still distressed areas in our state, and, therefore, we  
16 believe that we should state in our Constitution the  
17 right of the citizens to have the state provide for their  
18 continuing employment where there is the will to work and  
19 where they are physically able, or to train them for the  
20 employment in this highly technological age.

21 I would like to say in closing that the bill